

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
INSPECTOR OF PRISONS AND PUBLIC CHARITIES
UPON THE
ONTARIO INSTITUTION
FOR THE
Education and Instruction of the Blind,
BRANTFORD,
BEING FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1886.

Printed by Order of the Legislative Assembly.



Toronto :
PRINTED BY WARWICK & SONS, 26 AND 28 FRONT STREET WEST.
1887.

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OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR OF PRISONS AND PUBLIC CHARITIES, ONTARIO,
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, TORONTO, December, 1886.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith, to be presented to His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Fifteenth Annual Report upon the Institution for the Education and Instruction of the Blind, Brantford, being for the official year ending on the 30th September, 1886.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHRISTIE,

Inspector.

The Honourable

ARTHUR STURGIS HARDY, Q.C., M.P.P.,

Secretary for the Province of Ontario,

Toronto.

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INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

FIFTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Inspector of Prisons & Public Charities

FOR THE
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
Toronto, October, 1886.

*To the Honourable JOHN BEVERLEY ROBINSON, Lieutenant-Governor of the
Province of Ontario.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:—

I beg to submit herewith the Fifteenth Annual Report upon the Ontario Institution for the Education and Instruction of the Blind, Brantford, being for the official year ending 30th September, 1886.

I have the honour to be,

Your Honour's most obedient servant,

R. CHRISTIE,
INSPECTOR.

INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

During the year which closed on the 30th September, there were no particularly striking events to comment upon, but very shortly after the year ended, a case of diphtheria appeared in the Institution, to be followed within a few days by three more cases. All those attacked by this much dreaded disease were boys. I regret to have to report that the pupil first attacked died on the 10th October, being the first death which had occurred in the Institution for nearly six years; happily the other pupils made good recoveries. So soon as I received the Principal's telegram, reporting that diphtheria had appeared amongst the pupils, I went to Brantford with Dr. Bryce, the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health. Aided by the Principal we made a very careful examination of the building and its drainage system, and although we found that the ventilation of the sewers, good as it was, might be improved and systematized, still we could not trace any local cause for the outbreak of the disease. At the time of writing, the outbreak has been confined to the four cases above mentioned and I trust that there will be no further spread. A scheme for the complete ventilation of the drainage system is being prepared and will be put in force as soon as practicable, so as to ensure that there shall be no danger to health through imperfectly ventilated drains.

The Principal, in his supplementary report upon this matter, refers to the desirability of providing the Institution with an hospital ward for the female pupils. The isolated hospital ward on the male side was of the greatest value at the time of this outbreak, and I would be extremely glad if a similar ward could be provided for female pupils, for in the event of an epidemic amongst them, great difficulty would be experienced in isolating the sick from the healthy.

The expectation expressed in the report of last year that the average attendance of pupils would be about 130 was realized, the average being exactly 132. The Principal is of opinion that during the session now in progress, the average attendance will be 140.

Other matters of minor interest are dealt with in my inspection reports, and also in the annual reports of the Principal and Surgeon. The reports upon the Literary and Musical Departments are also annexed. Perusal of these will shew that good progress is being made by the pupils and that the efficiency of the teaching staff is being maintained; nor is the Industrial Department neglected, as the statements of the Principal and Trades Instructor will shew.

INSPECTIONS.

Copies of my minutes are appended :—

" My first inspection of the Institution for the Blind, Brantford, for the official year, was made on the 19th January.

" On that date there were 134 pupils in attendance (74 males and 60 females), a slight increase as compared with the average attendance during the previous year. The health of all the pupils was found to be excellent, there being no case of illness among them, and they were reported to be making steady and satisfactory progress in their literary and industrial work. A number

of the classes were preparing the material for work to be exhibited at the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. The work already completed will certainly reflect much credit upon the Institution and its system of instruction, the specimens of domestic and fancy-work being both tasteful and artistic. External and internal views of the building are also being prepared to form a part of the exhibit.

"The main object of my visit on this occasion was to determine as to the details of certain repairs and improvements required to be made during the present season, the principal of which is an alteration in the heating appliances, with a view to maintaining a more even temperature in the extreme east and west wings. The drainage also of the residences of the Principal and Bursar, which has heretofore been left in abeyance, now requires attention; and the painting and repointing of certain portions of the main building are necessary to insure the comfort of the pupils who occupy the more exposed portions, as well as to keep the structure in a proper state of repair.

"Careful estimates of the amount required to effect these improvements have been made and will be submitted for approval, so that an appropriation may be made to cover the outlay.

"Internally the building was found to be in good order and will require but little expenditure to maintain it in this state during the present year.

"The whole work of the Institution appeared to be progressing most favourably, and the officers and teachers were evidently devoting themselves to their various duties with commendable spirit and energy.

"On the 4th of June I made a second inspection of the Institution, and as the session was to close on the 9th, I had an opportunity of seeing all the pupils before they left for their vacation. There were 138 present on the day of my visit, 78 males and 60 females; all of them appeared to be in excellent health; indeed, their health during the session has been remarkably good throughout, and no interruption on account of ailments has occurred which could hinder their progress in studies or acquirements in industrial operations.

"The annual examinations of the classes in literary work had been completed previous to the day of my visit, and while it would be premature to speak of the precise result of the work of the session, prior to the receipt of the Examiners' report, yet from the minute record, which is kept of the progress made by each scholar from day to day, and from which all merit marks are deducted and the actual advance made correctly shewn, a reliable estimate can be formed of the average attainments and progress of each scholar and, judging from this evidence, steady application and good results have been obtained.

"The discipline and order of the Institution have also been well maintained, and from a retrospect of the session as a whole, the evidences are that the pupils have been thoroughly grounded in their various subjects of study.

"An examination of the building shewed that due care has been exercised in keeping it in good order in all its apartments, and the improvements made during the past two or three years have materially added to its comforts and appearance internally. Previous to my visit arrangements had been made authorising the commencement of some of the improvements for which appropriations were voted. The work of connecting the Principal's and Bursar's houses with the water system was nearly finished, and had been properly done.

"In consequence of the destruction of a considerable portion of the two sections of the boundary fence by a severe storm which passed over the Institution grounds lately, the reconstruction of the portions destroyed will necessarily have to be made. At the suggestion of the Principal, however, a cheaper and much more

economical line of demarcation can be established by substituting for the high picket fence which has been blown down, posts and iron rods only. This construction has been approved of and the work of clearing away the old fence is being proceeded with preparatory to the placing of the new one on the ground.

"The alterations necessary before replacing some of the steam heating pipes with those of larger diameter for the purpose of more perfectly heating the eastern or girls' wing, has also been attended to and the work advanced as far as practicable before the vacation term commences, and the whole can now be completed in a satisfactory manner before the assembling of another session.

"The grounds appeared to advantage; the crops promise a good return and the general condition of the cultivated portions shewed care and proper attention."

"I made a third inspection of the Institution on the 9th, 10th and 11th October.

"My visit was made in company with Dr. Bryce, Secretary of the Board of Health, owing to the appearance of three cases of diphtheria among the pupils of the Institution.

"The re-assembling of the pupils on the first day of September had taken place under the usual conditions. The Principal had reported them to be in good health and the session opened auspiciously in this respect. Although quite a number of the pupils of the former session had not returned, the new pupils—together with those of the old ones who had returned—brought the population up to the usual number, the pupils in attendance on the first day of our visit numbering 136, namely, 80 males and 56 females.

"On arriving at the Institution, we found one of the pupils to be in a very precarious condition, the disease in his case being malignant in its symptoms and not responding favourably to treatment. This case, I regret to say, resulted fatally on the morning of the 10th. In the other two cases, the disease did not appear to be so violent and the medical men in attendance expressed themselves hopefully as to recovery.

"Under the circumstances, we of course felt it to be our first duty to determine, if possible, whether the disease was traceable to any local cause, and the first two days were spent in making a thorough examination of the Institution itself, as well as the premises generally and the drainage system. In this examination we were assisted by Dr. Corson, the physician in attendance at the Institution.

"No evidence could be found, however, of there being any local cause for the appearance of the disease. The main and branch drains were inspected with a view to ascertaining their condition and at the same time provide more thorough ventilation, where it was deemed advisable to have it, and instructions were given to continue this work throughout the drainage system. The extension of the drain-pipes and water supply to the Principal's house was also authorised, together with the necessary internal alterations, to make the system complete and thus avoid any danger of contamination from the cesspools in future.

"The condition of the buildings and their surroundings was found to be excellent. Improvements in the way of painting, calsonining, etc., had been properly and thoroughly attended to. All closets and outbuildings were clean and well kept, and refuse of all descriptions had been removed.

"The opinion entertained by the Principal, therefore, as to the probability of the disease being imported was concurred in by us; and the prompt action taken in isolating the three pupils who were taken with the malady will, it is hoped, entirely check its further spread.

"Every possible measure which could be suggested for the arrest of the disease has been authorised in view of the greater susceptibility to contagion among pupils who, in many cases, do not enjoy robust physical health and have not the power of resistance.

"The improvements authorized, such as painting the outside of the building and refitting the steam-heating in the east wing, have been satisfactorily completed, and both internally and externally the Institution now presents a neat and tidy appearance.

"In consequence of this outbreak of diphtheria, the regular work and routine of the Institution have been and, to some extent, will continue to be, interfered with so long as it is necessary to preserve the isolation of those afflicted with the disease.

"This condition of things is much to be regretted in its effect upon the work of the session, as there were many evidences on the part of the pupils of their capacity to make good progress and accomplish their work successfully through the systematic and harmonious action of the teachers and officials of the Institution."

EXAMINERS' REPORTS.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

The classes in this department were examined by Mr. Wilkinson, M.A., Principal of the Brantford Central School, and by Dr. Kelly, Public School Inspector. A copy of the report made by them will be found below :—

According to instructions we examined the literary classes of the Institution for the Blind at Brantford, commencing the 25th May last. The examination extended over four days. The results, which are hereto affixed, were very satisfactory. The management, order, attention and general tone of the establishment, were all that could be desired. The classrooms and halls were clean and well ventilated, and the grounds through which we drove on the last day of the examination seemed very much improved since our last visit. Of the library free use is made by the pupils, many of whom read rather extensively. Since the last examination the following books have been added to the list: Prescott's History of Peru, 2 vols.; Dicken's Tale of Two Cities, 3 vols.; Holmes' Autocrat, 2 vols.; Irving's Mohammed, 2 vols.; Thomas à Kempis, 1 vol.; Tales of Adventure, 2 vols.; Tales of Discovery, 2 vols.; Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare, 2 vols.; Æsop's Fables; Shakespeare's Henry V., 3 vols.; Quinten Durward, 2 vols.; Scarlet Letter, 2 vols.; Romeo and Juliet, 2 vols.; Kingsley's Greek Heroes, 2 vols.; Last Days of Pompeii, 3 vols.; and Scott's Poems. Frequently, as among seeing children, pupils may be found in intervals of leisure in some great room or corner perusing some favourite book. The want of a good gymnasium is still felt and should be supplied as soon as possible. The classes of the respective teachers are grouped as follows, with results :—

MR. WICKENS' CLASSES.

I. *Arithmetic*—Class B. Sixteen in number; examined in simple and compound rules and fractions; answering generally prompt and correct; about half the class exhibiting a good knowledge of the subject.

II. *Reading*—Class of 16. Grade A. The members of this class read with excellent expression, enunciate clearly and emphasize correctly.

III. *Natural History and Physiology*—Class of 10. Members show a satisfactory knowledge of physiology and do fairly in zoology, answering questions readily on the structure and functions of the human organs and laws of hygiene. Three answered all questions asked.

IV. *English Grammar*—Class B. This class had mastered the elements of the subjects pretty thoroughly, they detect and correct ordinary grammatical errors well, and have evidently been taught grammar practically, as was evinced by their correct English, they analyze and parse well; the majority quite ready for promotion to a higher class in this subject.

V. *Geography*—Class A. Examination chiefly by means of dissected map. Their facility in finding a country that was named is remarkable. They have acquired an intimate knowledge of the position of all the principal cities and towns, their relative position etc., know the forms of government, productions, manufactories, exports and imports of the several countries of Europe. No questions missed by the whole class.

VI. *Writing*—Class A. All write legibly; a few will write a business letter in very fair form. Writing a letter to sewing machine factory for a machine stating kind wanted, price, etc. The result was very creditable, showing not only fair writing but the ability to state briefly and clearly what was required.

MISS WALSH'S CLASSES.

I. *English Grammar*—Class A. Fourteen members limit. The history of language, analysis and parsing of prose and verse. The work done by this class was excellent. Complex and compound sentences were readily analyzed and the words correctly parsed. The attainments of the pupils very uniform and good, the majority obtaining nearly the maximum of the marks.

II. *Reading*—Class C. Seventeen pupils, who read with good expression and correct emphasis.

III. *Writing*—Class B. Fourteen pupils; writing free and legible; letters generally well formed.

IV. *Geography*—Limit; North America and West Indies, but particularly the Dominion of Canada. The work had been well done by the majority of the class. A couple were rather behind the average, but geography had evidently been a pleasant study to them and their knowledge of their term's work was good. The questions were, in the main, such as are given in a thorough oral drill of seeing pupils, and the answers were quite as prompt and correct as would be given by a good class in the same work in the public schools.

V. *Object*—Class B. This class pursues pretty much the same methods as those followed in Class A. The pupils are younger and of course need more elementary training. They have mastered many of the leading facts as to the uses, products and habits of the common animals, and can tell by touch the names of birds, etc., when the objects are presented.

MISS M. E. WALSH'S CLASSES.

I. *Grammar*—Class C. Eleven pupils; attentive and do good work; know definitions and analyze and parse fairly.

II. *Geography*—Class B. Thirteen pupils; limit, Dominion of Canada, West Indies, South America and United States. Use dissected map and do the work of their limit in a very satisfactory manner.

III. *Object Lessons*—Class A. Great improvement has been made in teaching the blind qualities of the things about which they read, by furnishing specimens of the articles

and teaching them the properties of those things objectively. Great care had been taken with this class. The principal points with reference to all the well-known animals, grains and groceries, were mastered. Acquaintance with this subject adds very much to their knowledge of geography and kindred matters.

IV. *Reading*—Class B. Have been taught to read in a tone loud and clear, but free from harshness. Know what they read; spelling not quite so good.

V. *Writing*—Class C. Write the names of the days of the week, Arabic numbers, proper names, capitals, etc., very fairly.

MISS GILLEN'S CLASSES.

Arithmetic—Class D. Twenty-two in this class, mostly young. Know rotation and numeration, can add three figures, mentally subtract, multiply and divide, and do small problems.

II. *Geography*—Class D. Similar to the last; use dissected maps, and answer fairly well.

III. *Writing*—Same Class. Form letters well, and write in a fairly legible manner.

IV. *Canadian History*—The examination of this class comprised a test of their knowledge of the chief wars and their causes and results; the chief treaties and Acts of Parliament, with their provisions; most of the important events of each epoch in Canadian history, and brief biographies of the most eminent men. The answering showed that they had been well taught, and thoroughly drilled.

V. *Grammar*—Class D. This class was given a good drill in the definitions, and examined rather minutely on the inflections of gender, persons, number, comparison, etc., also parse simple sentences very fairly. The knowledge obtained in the short time they have been under instruction on this subject, is very creditable to the teacher.

VI. *English Literature*—The class in this subject consisting of 20 members is a select one, and embraces most of the best and brightest pupils in the Institution. The work of the past year embraced the history of English Literature, from Bede's time to the present, a general review; more minutely, *Paradise Lost*, 1st and 2nd Books; Shakespeare's *Henry VII.*; Scott's *Lord of the Isles*, and Whittier's poems. The greatest interest is manifested in the subject by all the class. The answering, as on former occasions was admirable, and the recitations from memory of choice passages from the several authors was shared in by every individual in the class, each being desirous of contributing something to the common stock of information. We cannot too strongly commend the work done here, the industry and enthusiasm of the class, and the zeal and energy of the teacher. Any school might be proud of such pupils.

VII. *English History*—A Class of 10 advanced pupils. Limit of work, from 1688 to present time. A familiar acquaintance with the general history of the period shown, also a good knowledge of the constitutions and other changes effected in the interval.

MR. MCCARTHY'S CLASSES.

I. *Reading*—Class D. This is a primary or rather combination of classes. All doing as good work as one might expect. The advancement made by some since last examination, is well marked.

II. *Writing*—Class E. These little ones are struggling with the elements of the subject. Several have mastered all the small letters and can write small words. The class contains some that have but recently entered the Institution, and from whom, therefore, not much could be expected. A good beginning has been made, and all who are able to learn are certainly doing well.

III. *Gymnastic Classes*—The teaching here is excellent, and the pupils take great interest in the exercises, and are suitably benefited by them.

IV. *Grammar*—Class E. A pupil teacher in charge of 15 pupils. Several know the definitions and inflections well and can parse very easy words; others are deficient, but this is no fault of the teacher.

V. *Arithmetic*—Class E. Pupil in charge. The pupils in this class are quite young. Some of them will never be very apt in arithmetic; a few are exceedingly bright. They are in different stages of advancement, and were examined individually. Fair work has been done; some of the little ones performed operations in addition and subtraction very well. They have also been taught to count to quite high numbers, and understand the simple relations of numbers fairly well. In the examination of this class, wooden blocks were employed and the pupils showed much ingenuity in their use.

On the whole, classes are well taught and the Institution seems to be in a most satisfactory state. We have to thank the Principal and his staff for courtesies extended to us during the examination.

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

This was examined by Professor Aldous, of Hamilton. A copy of the report made by him is appended:—

In submitting my report on the examination of the various branches of the Musical Department, which I held in the Blind Institute in Brantford, on May 26 and 27th, I could at once remark on the *entente cordiale* that exists among the teachers, and between the teachers and their pupils; also, on the gratifying progress that is observable in those pupils who came under my notice last year, the advance in some cases being very remarkable."

It is unnecessary to make special mention about each of the classes. The piano classes under Mr. Day, Miss Callaghan, Miss Moore and Miss McNish; the organ pupils under Mr. Day; and the melodeon pupils under Miss McNish; the vocal tuition under the care of Mr. Howson; the violin class under Mr. Baker; the counterpoint class under Mr. Day; and the harmony classes under Mr. Day and Miss Moore; the point class under Miss Moore; and the tuning under Mr. Raymond. In all classes the same careful teaching and kindly attention are to be found that I commented on before. Classes under the care of pupil teachers are a new introduction since last year, which must be reported. It is of course a necessity that those who are going to practice teaching for a livelihood should have some opportunity of beginning to teach, and of getting some experience in that line. In my opinion this should be done under the supervision and in the presence of one of the regular teachers, otherwise many little, but very essential points, are likely, if not certain, to escape the notice of the pupil teacher, who has defective vision and who has not yet found out the way of detecting faults which are at once apparent to a pair of good eyes, such as faulty finger position and action, absence of the clinging touch which is necessary to true legato-playing, which absence seems to be a peculiarity of blind students in their beginning stages. In view of this latter fact I would urge on those who take the pupil at the very beginning of their music studies, to carefully and rigidly insist first on the correct binding of the tones together, which is so essential an element in sympathetic playing. The fact that the blind have to trust to their touch instead of their eyes to find their notes, seems to induce a habit of holding their arms suspended over the keys and allowing the fingers to touch the notes in a light and jerky manner, a habit which can easily be stopped at the outset, but is well nigh ineradicable when once well rooted. The hearty chorus and hymn singing which forms a part of their daily worship, and which is under the care of Miss Callaghan and Mr. Day, is a very pleasant and noticeable feature, and cannot fail to have a very beneficial effect on all those who participate in it. I would again suggest to their attention, the advisability of remodelling the arrangements with regard to the pianos. A new Mason & Risch upright, and a J. R.

Williams upright, in the first parlour, are a good addition to the stock ; but I cannot help thinking that it would be wiser to adopt the plan in vogue in colleges and schools, to make an arrangement with some pianoforte firm to keep the Institute supplied with good instruments for so much per annum. Where the pianos are the property of the Institution they must deteriorate with years and have to be replaced one by one with new ones, whereas under the other system the Institute would have no decayed pianos within its walls, except a few for the tuners to practice upon. The pedal harmonium needs a thorough overhauling, and I should strongly recommend the clarinet stops to be filled in in the organ (as prepared for), as it is a stop that is much used, and there are now sufficient pupils who play advanced music to render that stop not only desirable but almost necessary. The grading of the pupils into various stages of ability and progress seems to be successful, and will undoubtedly tend to raise a healthy spirit of emulation among the pupils.

In closing my report I must thank the Principal and the whole staff for the kindness which I experienced during my stay.

MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES.

The amount expended in maintaining the Institution during the past twelve months is shown in the subjoined statement. The same information as regards the previous year is also given :—

SERVICES.	YEAR ENDING 30TH SEP- TEMBER, 1885.		YEAR ENDING 30TH SEP- TEMBER, 1886.	
	Total Ex- penditure.	Annual cost per pupil.	Total Ex- penditure.	Annual cost per pupil.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Salaries and wages.....	15,421 57	116 83	15,658 56	118 63
Medicine and medical comforts	100 15	0 76	87 34	0 66
Butchers' meat, fish, etc.....	3,030 10	22 96	2,982 06	22 59
Flour, bread, etc.....	897 56	6 80	888 68	6 73
Butter and lard.....	953 68	7 22	966 13	7 32
General groceries.....	1,888 74	14 31	1,863 58	14 12
Fruit and vegetables.....	223 86	1 70	308 80	2 34
Bedding, clothing and shoes.....	616 61	4 67	660 05	5 00
Fuel.....	3,634 56	27 53	2,951 30	22 36
Light.....	1,262 45	9 56	963 50	7 30
Laundry, soap and cleaning.....	395 13	2 99	346 69	2 63
Furniture and furnishings.....	511 06	3 87	494 05	3 74
Farm, feed and fodder.....	958 31	7 26	895 86	6 79
Repairs and alterations.....	1,022 66	7 75	896 54	6 79
Advertising, printing, postage, etc.....	575 40	4 36	675 19	5 11
Books, apparatus and appliances.....	709 91	5 38	718 32	5 44
Miscellaneous.....	1,183 77	8 97	1,218 08	9 23
Totals.....	33,385 52	252 92	32,574 73	246 78

In the following pages will be found the reports of the Principal and Physician, also statistical tables relating to the pupils.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Esq.,

Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities :

SIR,—I have the honour, as Principal of the Institution for the Education of the Blind, to submit my report for the year ending September 30th, 1886.

ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS.

The total number of pupils registered during the year was 141, or three less than in the preceding year. Of the 141, 78 were males and 63 females. One hundred and ten of our last year's pupils are now in attendance. Of these 61 are males and 49 females. Thirty-one—17 males and 14 females—have, consequently, not yet returned, and are accounted for as under :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Graduated in willow work, with full outfit.....	1	0	1
“ “ with partial outfits.....	5	0	5
Graduated in literary, musical and industrial classes..	2	0	2
“ “ literary classes, partially in music.....	0	1	1
Left finally with partial results.....	0	4	4
Found employment, (partial sight)	1	0	1
Left owing to poor health.....	2	1	3
“ “ home requirements.....	0	2	2
“ “ removal from Canada	1	0	1
Excluded on account of weak intellect.....	0	1	1
“ “ grave misconduct	0	1	1
Detained at home temporarily from various explained causes	4	4	8
Absence not accounted for.....	1	0	1
Total.....	17	14	31

In addition to the 110 pupils of last session who have, so far, presented themselves, 5 former pupils—2 males and 3 females—not in attendance last session, have been re-admitted. The new admissions to date number 17—13 males and 4 females—so that our total pupil population at the present time is made up as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pupils of last session	61	49	110
New pupils	13	4	17
Former pupils re-admitted.....	2	3	5
Total.....	76	56	132

This shows an attendance of 8 in excess of the number on the register at the corresponding date last year.

From reports received from pupils temporarily absent and applications in hand, I am led to believe that this excess will—if no disturbing causes intervene—be fully maintained throughout the session, and that our average will approximate closely to 140 as against 132, the average attendance of last session.

The respective ages of the new arrivals are as follows:—

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.
6	2	0	2
9	1	3	4
10	1	0	1
11	1	0	1
12	1	0	1
13	2	0	2
17	1	0	1
22	1	0	1
23	1	0	1
24	1	0	1
31	1	0	1
37	0	1	1
Total.....	13	4	17

For the admission of the two juniors, both under age, in the foregoing list, very strong reasons existed. The applications of the over-age persons were most carefully scrutinized, and only acceded to after a special case had in every instance been made out in favour of the applicant. In no one of them could admission very well have been refused. While the objection to the reception of adults in such an Institution is never to be lost sight of, some little risk must at times be incurred in order to avoid doing to much afflicted and often very deserving young men and women a lifelong injury. I am bound, moreover, to add that our adult pupils have usually shown a proper sense of their privileges, and have given very little trouble.

PUPILS WHO HAVE LEFT.

A few explanatory remarks with reference to pupils who have left the Institution during or at the end of last session, may here be in place. The five male pupils who graduated with partial outfits had, with one exception—a pupil of four years' standing—been for many sessions in the Institution, and under industrial instruction. All were diligent in their efforts to learn, but none of them had the mechanical ability necessary for the attainment of the position of full graduates. An exception was, consequently, made in their favour. They left with liberal supplies of tools, models and willow-ware, and are, I believe, all now earning a livelihood by making and vending the less elaborate classes of willow goods. The two pianoforte tuners who graduated are also doing well. One of them is carrying on his business on his own account, the other is in the employment of Messrs. Mason & Risch, the well-known pianoforte manufacturers, of Toronto. Of the pupils the state of whose health led to their removal, two are constitutionally delicate, and are better on that account at home; the third was in the best of health at the close of the session, and any illness in her case must have been of vacation origin. One of the two first mentioned is able to work occasionally at his trade as a basket-maker, the other, a talented lad, is pursuing his studies in music under private tuition.

THE STAFF.

The vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. W. P. Day, our senior music teacher, who left in order to accept a similar position in the Illinois Female College, conjointly with an appointment in the Illinois Institution for the Blind, has been filled by Mr. Edward H. Knight, who, like Mr. Day, is a graduate of the New England Conservatory. The duties of junior male officer, which include, with the charge of the male pupils out of school hours, the instruction of some of the primary literary classes, and a large class in calisthenics, are now performed by Mr. Francis Flanagan, in the place of Mr. Joseph McCarthy, who resigned in order to enter upon a special course of collegiate studies.

Miss Mary Jane Brown, a former pupil who had for some years acted as assistant instructor in the workroom, also retired at the vacation, and her successor has not yet been appointed. While occasional changes are inevitable, it is gratifying to know that they occur from no unpleasant cause, and that the majority of the staff are officers of such experience and standing in their profession as to leave nothing to be desired on that score. To one and all of them my cordial thanks are due for their kind and faithful co-operation.

THE LITERARY CLASSES—KINDERGARTEN.

The general arrangement of the literary classes continues to be nearly the same as last year. The numbers of pupils constituting these classes are as follows:—

In Arithmetic	76
Grammar	68
Geography	67
Reading	66
Literature	20
Writing	97
Natural History and Physiology (Boys)	7
Object Lessons	34
English and Canadian History	20

For full information as to the condition of the literary classes and the progress of the pupils, reference may be made to the Examiners' reports, which have for the past six sessions formed a very interesting feature in our annual records. While the Examiners find little to criticise, and speak in only too generous terms of the state of our literary department, the necessity for progressive improvement, wherever possible, must not be lost sight of. I am conscious of the need in this particular for the more systematic training of the minds and perceptive faculties of our younger pupils during the earlier stages of their Institution life than we have yet attained. This, in my opinion, only the Kindergarten system, thoroughly and scientifically applied to the needs and condition of the blind, can fully supply, and to teach this properly, the systematic training of the teacher for this particular work is required. The two Institutions that rank highest on this Continent as models in respect of the education of the Blind, whether as regards their appliances and apparatus, or the experience brought to bear on their management, are respectively the one in New York city, under the superintendence of Mr. W. B. Wait, and the Perkins Institute, under Mr. M. Anagnos, the son-in-law and successor of its founder, Dr. Howe. At both of these the Kindergarten system is being carried out on a liberal scale. From my conversation with Mr. Wait during the sittings of the late Convention of Instructors of the Blind, I was convinced of the existence of two Kindergartens, a false and a true one, or, rather, of one that might be termed empirical and another properly designated scientific. The danger of adopting the former in mistake for the latter is to be carefully guarded against, especially when it is remembered that the pupils are those whose whole method of thinking and reasoning has to find in our educational processes its ground-work. The propriety of introducing the Kindergarten system in this Institution under a properly trained instructor, is a matter calling, I venture to suggest, for early consideration.

THE MUSIC CLASSES.

The plan of grading the classes under instruction on the pianoforte has, so far, proved very satisfactory. It had been carried out hitherto rather tentatively and experimentally than as a perfect or complete arrangement, but will now go into force in its entirety, and no pupil will be changed from one grade to another except, as in the case of the literary classes, after a report by the teacher to the Principal. A graded course will also be adopted with the pupils under Mr. Knight's tuition on the pipe organ. I

most fully concur in the general purport of the Examiner's remarks, as to the necessity for the correct training of beginners. Mr. Aldous probably scarcely realizes how readily, or by what means even a blind pupil-instructor, if properly taught, will detect some faults that would seem to be only discernible by the eye. But he well advises that, at the commencement of the learner's career, the experienced and seeing instructor should be on hand to supervise the work of the pupil teacher, and to correct through the latter's instrumentality the defects of the pupil. In accordance with this view, I have arranged for Miss Callaghan, our senior lady music teacher, to superintend daily in person, three of the pupil-teachers' junior girls' classes. Mr. Knight's time is too fully occupied for him to give daily attention to the three boys' classes, under as many male pupil-teachers, but on one day in the week they are subject to his inspection and examination.

The Examiner's recommendation that our pianos should be hired instead of purchased is entitled to all respect, although I am unable for various reasons to advise that it should be acted upon. In the first place, I doubt whether any leading house would care to accept such a contract on reasonable terms, in view of the external defacement,—to a great extent from unavoidable causes—to say nothing of internal deterioration to which the instruments are subjected at the hands of a mixed crowd of blind pupils. In the next place, the owner would almost certainly insist on tuning his own instruments, but it is of the very essence of our method of instruction in that branch that our senior pupil tuners should have all the practice the care of our own pianos secures for them—and of this they have little enough. Again, our old instruments supply "subjects" for the tuning classes to practice daily upon and, if by the natural process of damage and decay we failed to secure a supply of old instruments, we should have to buy others for the purpose. Our stock of pianos is now much improved; we have a very fair number for present purposes and most of them in good condition. Our greater need now is more rooms for music practice, particularly in the east wing where we have some instruments in very objectionable situations. The numbers of pupils in the several branches of musical tuition are as under:—

In Pipe Organ	5
Pianoforte	82
Reed Organ	8
Violin	4
Vocal class	38
Harmony	13
Point Print Music Writing	10

THE TUNING CLASS.

A place in this class is an object of ambition with many of our male pupils. There are now 21 under instruction, of whom 15 are taught by the Instructor, Mr. Raymond, personally, and 6 by advanced pupils. The two seniors have charge of all the tools and are expected to keep the pianos of the Institution in good order. The purchases of new instruments during the past year have enabled me to place an additional piano at the service of the tuning class, which is consequently well supplied with opportunities for practice. Every pupil is afforded a sufficient time for practice daily. Encouraging reports continue to be received from pupils who have graduated from this department; at the same time, caution is necessary lest it should be over-crowded. Pianoforte tuning is not a merely mechanical acquirement, nor, on the other hand, will every pupil with a fair talent for music make a first-class tuner. To turn out half qualified tuners would soon discredit the employment of the blind in this capacity altogether, and render their struggle with seeing competition more difficult than ever. Pupils and pupils' friends are apt to make too light of these considerations and turn from the homelier but often more certain trade of chair and basket-making, to tuning, as being a vocation in their view, less laborious and more refined. It will probably be necessary to impose some check in the shape of a test, ere long, on the crowd of eager aspirants for a place in the tuning class.

THE WILLOW SHOP.

In this department everything has worked smoothly and pleasantly during the past year. Six pupils, as already stated, graduated with complete or partial outfits at the end of the late session and 21 are now working wholly or for certain hours daily in the willow shop. The Trade Instructor's report is as follows:—

To the Principal:—

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report upon the operations of the workshop during the year ending September, 30th, 1886.

The session has been one of fair progress on the part of the pupils engaged in the workshop. Six graduated at the close of the session; one of this number received a complete outfit of tools, models and materials, having completed the full course of instruction; the others were granted partial outfits of tools, models and materials sufficient to enable them to produce such articles as they were thought competent to make. All six are now working at their own homes, and I have already received encouraging reports of their success from several of them. The behaviour of the shop pupils during the entire session has been most exemplary, their industry commendable and their contentment gratifying—these qualities being allied to cheerfulness (an excellent working quality). I am enabled to furnish the following statement, which shows the amount of reliable work made during their nine months of training.

Sales by Trade Instructor	\$674 85
Work on hand not sold	200 00
Total	\$874 85

In consequence of having so many graduates at the close of last session, the number of pupils qualified to receive vacation supplies of willow was considerably reduced, but ten pupils were, nevertheless, granted a supply of willow and the loan of a few tools and models. The following statement shows the excellent result:—

W. D. earned	\$28 00
S. W. "	37 00
F. N. "	25 00
M. N. "	25 00
T. P. "	25 00
A. S. "	6 00
F. P. "	12 00
T. E. "	15 00
J. S. "	20 00
S. L. "	28 00
S. S. "	33 00
H. S. "	10 00
Total vacation earnings	\$264 00

On the return of the above pupils at the commencement of the present session, I was surprised to find that one of the number had, in addition to his sales, made an assortment of willow-ware for exhibition at the London Fair and had received the first prize, \$4.00. Another of our pupils (a graduate) recently wrote me that he was very busy making an assortment of work, also for exhibition, and enclosing a post-office order in payment for common baskets, which he was too busy to make himself.

Perhaps the principal feature of last session's work was the making of a large assortment of willow-ware by our pupils for the Educational Exhibit, sent to the Indo-Colonial

Exhibition. This task imposed upon pupils and Instructor a work beyond their ordinary ambition, but, if by aiming at the sky we have managed to strike a tree, we shall feel rewarded for spending a great deal of time and additional labour in preparing the work for exhibition.

At the present time there are twenty-one pupils in the workshop making satisfactory progress.

I have the honour, etc.,

THOS. TRUSS, Trade Instructor.

THE SEWING ROOM.

In this department 41 pupils, all females, receive instruction. The retirement of the Assistant Instructress, Miss Mary J. Brown, has imposed additional duties on the Instructress, Miss Loveys, who, however, is frequently able to secure assistance from some of the more advanced pupils in teaching beginners. The Bead Class will be in operation in a few days.

THE KNITTING ROOM.

In this room a quantity of very beautiful work, both machine and hand-knitted, has been turned out during the past session. The result more than justifies the change made some time since, in regard to the character of the work produced and the payment of pupils employed in its production. The quality is higher, the variety greater, and the tasteful and ornamental is largely substituted for the coarse and homely goods of former years. I was much struck when at New York with the appearance of the well furnished and carpeted apartment, with its show-cases of finished work, which formed the sewing, knitting and fancy work-room of that Institution. If we have no room to spare for this purpose of the dimensions of the one I referred to, our rooms are light and lofty and could easily be made more attractive than they are at present, at a small expense, while, at the same time, the work could be protected from dust and handling and be more effectively displayed than it is. The pupils in the knitting classes number 49.

THE INDO-COLONIAL EXHIBITION.

At the suggestion of the Hon. Minister of Education, an exhibit of the apparatus used and specimens of the products of the industries taught in this Institution was forwarded to the Indo-Colonial Exhibition, held this year in London. It included selections from goods manufactured in the willow shop, models employed in their production, some very beautiful hand and machine needlework, elaborate and tasteful knitted-goods, and bead and fancy work. These were accompanied by a chart, descriptive of the Institution in all particulars, and photographic views of the Institution and site, as well as photographs of the various class and work-rooms and the pupils engaged at their several duties. A raised sectional map of Ontario, point-print writing guides, and models and stuffed specimens used in object teaching, were also shown.

THE LIBRARY.

The following books in embossed type or point-print have been added to the Pupils' Library during the past year: In embossed type—Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter*; Scott's *Poems*; Kingsley's *Greek Heroes*; Quentin Durward; What Katy did; Romeo and Juliet; Prescott's *Conquest of Peru*; Thomas à Kempis; Holmes' *Autoer at Breakfast*; Prescott's *Mahomet*; Dickens's *Tale of Two Cities*; In point print—*Tales of Adventure*; Prescott's *Mahomet*; Dickens's *Tale of Two Cities*; In point print—*Tales of Adventure*; Smiles' *Self-help*; Tales from Shakespeare; Chapters on Animals; *Aesop's Fables*; and Thomas à Kempis.

HEALTH.

The general health of the pupils during the past year has been excellent. Dr. Corson's report will no doubt enter into fuller details on this point. Cases of constitutional delicacy will always be more or less numerous in institutions of this kind, and frequently lead to the conclusion that a temporary respite from continuous study is desirable. A recommendation from the medical officer to that effect always meets with immediate attention. The absence of contagious disease and of other complaints arising from local causes is a powerful testimony to the general healthfulness of the site and the efficiency of the sanitary arrangements of the Institution.

DISCIPLINE.

The principles upon which discipline is maintained at this Institution have been fully discussed in previous reports. The conduct of the pupils as a whole during the past session was most satisfactory and extreme measures had seldom to be resorted to. As already mentioned, one case of expulsion—and I am happy to say only one—has to be reported. One of the female pupils, a girl of 16, was guilty, for the second time, of wilfully destroying the clothing of her fellow pupils. This was done in sheer mischief and without any pretence of provocation. A low order of intellect combined with very dull moral perception, made the case a somewhat hopeless one, and the girl's removal was necessary in the interest of safety as well as discipline.

VACATION IMPROVEMENTS.

During the late vacation our Engineer and his Assistants have effected very extensive improvements in the heating arrangements of the building especially the school and work-rooms and dormitories, in the east wing. The last stove has been removed from the main building and I anticipate that not only will a considerable saving of fuel be secured but that the personal comfort of the female pupils particularly will be greatly enhanced by the better and more equal distribution of heat. These important alterations have been accomplished at a comparatively trifling cost. The whole of the building is now well heated, but economy will be consulted by the substitution of radiators for coils and pipes in several places and I recommend that a small amount for this purpose be appropriated.

The condition of the exterior of the building has been much improved by the stopping of the wood-work wherever shrunken, the pointing of the masonry, and the painting of the whole of the former. The old building had not been re-painted since its erection fourteen years since and its condition and appearance were hardly creditable. Rapid decay would have ensued had this matter been longer neglected. There are places even now where another coat of paint might be given advantageously. The exteriors of the Principal's and Engineer's houses will both require to be painted next year. The new material known as Alabastine for colouring walls and ceilings has been used by us in several instances either as a ground work or substitute for paint. In this mode of using it Alabastine has answered well, while it is a great improvement when applied in place of white-wash.

THE GROUNDS.

The most marked improvement in the grounds, has been the removal of some fifteen hundred feet of the old six-foot picket fence on the southern and eastern front of the grounds, and the substitution in its place of a simple iron pipe rail, supported at eight foot distances on turned and painted cedar posts. The gates at the two main entrances are removed altogether. To the propriety of making this desirable change, attention was directed in my last report. It was brought about more speedily than I had ventured to anticipate by two furious storms of snow and rain respectively, both accompanied by high wind, which made gaps two to three hundred feet in length, and shattered to pieces large portions of the fencing blown down. The whole of the new work has been done at less

cost than the renewal of the broken fence and the substantial repair of the standing part would have entailed. The whole of our ornamental grounds are now thrown open to public view without obstruction, and as approached from the city present a very beautiful appearance. This will be heightened by the seeding down with mixed grasses of the lower portions, and planting trees and evergreens at suitable intervals. Our trees were last year subjected to a thorough pruning by which they have decidedly benefited.

The expropriation some time since, of twenty-two acres of land on the northern and western boundary of the Institution estate, chiefly for the purpose of maintaining the isolation of the premises, has made it necessary to consider how this new property may best be utilized. The higher portion on a level with the Institution, and immediately in its rear and broken at its western extremity into ravines and rolling land, is well adapted with very little planting and laying out for the purposes of a public park. The trees already planted in rows and groups, will ultimately form a protection to our rear premises while giving shelter to delightful walks and drives, serving, I trust, not only for a pleasant resort for our own pupils, but also for the citizens of Brantford. The lower and level portion of the new property was seeded down to clover last year, and during the past summer has been fenced and used very profitably as a pasture field for our cattle.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

The farm and garden this year have been very productive. Although the dryness of the late summer months retarded the development of our root crops, and has more or less affected the ultimate yield, the quantity obtained has been good, and in some cases even remarkable. The land is gradually becoming cleaner under vigilant cultivation, and the crops would not discredit soils of much greater richness.

IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED.

It is not, I presume, necessary for me to repeat arguments used time and again in favour of the three great improvements which, sooner or later, will probably have to be undertaken. A new roof, the extension of the east wing—the last mentioned including more class rooms and dormitories, music and practice rooms, a girls' trunk and play room, and a female hospital ward—and finally, a gymnasium, the value of which I imagine cannot even yet be sufficiently understood or appreciated, or it would have been erected long ago; these are the additions and improvements to which I refer. I had recently, when at the New York Convention, the opportunity of inspecting photographs of the drilled companies of blind youths in the Pennsylvania Institution, where, as well as at New York and Boston, the system of physical training is thoroughly carried out, and I am convinced that in a hygienic not less than a recreative sense, a gymnasium is essential to make our work here complete.

The bakery of the Institution is not what it ought to be in many respects. The oven is of the old fashioned description, and the general arrangements are below the mark altogether. I respectfully advise an appropriation to cover a reform in this department of our domestic economy.

The carpenter's shop has long been condemned as too small, as well as damp and unhealthy. Its removal, as once proposed, to the room in the basement formerly used as a Bursar's store-room, could only partially mend matters. If, too, the carpenter were in a more accessible place, his shop would be an object of interest and resort to some of our male pupils, not a few of whom have quite a little mechanical skill, and enjoy in a simple way, any opportunity afforded them for exercising it. I propose, in order to meet all our needs in this regard, to appropriate a part of the western coal shed which is far larger than necessary for the accommodation of the reduced quantity of small coal we now require. The portion taken can be boarded off, the upper part to be floored and used as the workshop, and the lower part as a cellar for storing lumber. The shop will then be a dry, roomy and airy apartment, easily warmed and accessible from the boys' quarters. The expense will be limited to the cost of the lumber needed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

I cannot close my report without again acknowledging the kind consideration and friendly attentions extended to our pupils by the clergy of all denominations and citizens of Brantford, generally, during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. DYMOND,
Principal.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Esq.,

Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities :

SIR,—My report recently forwarded to you deals exclusively with the state of the Institution and matters connected therewith, during the year ending September 30th, 1886. But, during the few days devoted to the compilation of that report, and while it was necessarily still in my hands, circumstances occurred to which I shall be glad to have an opportunity of referring, without waiting for a whole year to elapse before they are noticed. At the commencement of the present month, a state of almost unusual healthiness appeared to pervade the Institution. About the 4th of the month two pupils, both boys, complained of sore throat attended with feverish symptoms. One of these cases was clearly the result of a bad cold, and a day or two's nursing saw the lad again at his studies. The other, a boy of 14, named John Alexander, from East Whitby, became worse, but his case did not excite anxiety until the morning of the 8th, when it developed into diphtheria of a malignant type. He was immediately placed in our excellent male hospital ward in charge of an experienced sick-nurse, and effectually isolated from the rest of the pupils. In a few hours two other boys, one less than eight and the other under seven years of age, both became affected and were also placed with a second nurse in the hospital. The terrible nature of the disease and the rapidity with which a second and even third pupil was attacked, made the outlook for the moment a sufficiently appalling one. Perhaps nowhere could it present more difficulties than in an institution for the blind. In some instance the immediate dispersion of the pupils would seem to be the easiest and safest resort. But blind boys and girls require most careful arrangements, every detail of which must be perfect, before they can be dispersed. Experience has taught us that many days must be allowed for notices to reach parents and parents to be heard from in reply. And until this is done blind pupils cannot start on their way home. Again if diphtheria were really upon us, how could we say who was or who was not already infected, and if to detain the pupils here entailed some risk, to scatter them all over the province, might have been to spread contagion far and wide. Moreover, it was then known and correspondence has since made me more fully conscious of the facts, that diphtheria prevailed in close neighbourhood to many of our pupils' homes, and this would have made their return to the latter objectionable, if not actually dangerous. In face of objections to dispersion, so many and serious, I determined with the concurrence of the medical officer, Dr. Corson, on the intermediate course of advising the whole of the pupils' parents or guardians, of the state of affairs, and giving them the option of removing pupils or not, as they might deem most expedient. As the disease had appeared among the male pupils only, it was decided that all association between male and female pupils in class rooms or at roll call, (the only occasion on which they are together) should cease, class and other work was put on short time, and every opportunity taken for giving the benefit of fresh air and out door exercise to the whole of the pupils. The Institution

was closed to visitors, and the practice of allowing the male pupils to visit the city was discontinued. On the morning of Sunday, October 10th, John Alexander, the boy first attacked, and by whom there is every reason to believe the disease was communicated to others, succumbed to the disorder, his death being the first that had occurred in the Institution for nearly six years. Meantime your prompt arrival with Dr. Bryco, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, on the evening of Saturday 9th, afforded me an opportunity of discussing freely with you the steps to be taken in all eventualities, and for the suggestion of any possible remedial or precautionary measures. Obviously the first thing to be done was to discover, if practicable, the cause of the mischief, and some defective drainage, or the presence of sewer gas in the building naturally suggested itself. But this theory could not be maintained, for, although our sewers and drains were not as a whole systematically ventilated, the ventilation existing was quite sufficient to relieve any pressure on the sewer gas, while every trap and fitting was found to be in good working order. While, therefore, I rejoice in the substitution under your instructions and with the approval of the Board of Health, of a complete and scientific system of drain ventilation for what was before partial and accidental, I have the strongest possible belief, which Dr. Corson shares with me, that the disease was imported, that it had no local origin and that the limitation of its ranges to those who had been in personal contact and the immediate result of means taken to check its diffusion, affirm beyond all question the great healthfulness of the Institution and its surroundings, which has before now, rendered contagious disease—although in a less terrible form—comparatively harmless. Beyond the three lads first affected only one pupil (a boy of the same age as John Alexander and who had been in the latter's company at the time his isolation was first ordered) was attacked, but in so mild a form as to occasion little anxiety. Not one of the female pupils, nor any of the male pupils except those mentioned, have showed the least symptoms of diphtheria, but have all been generally in exceptionally good health. One of the female servants, who assists the boys' nurse in attending to the wants of junior pupils, and who was consequently in contact with the boys, sickened, was confined to her room for some days with a diphtheretic throat, and a sick nurse, kindly furnished by the authorities of our local hospital, also needed medical care from the same cause. Both have been for some time now out of the doctor's hands; the two younger pupil invalids are completely convalescent, and the lad last laid up will be released from the nurse's charge in a day or two. Having thus given a narrative of the visitation, I may be allowed the further privilege of discharging some further duties in connection with the matters referred to. I must first acknowledge the cordial support and active co-operation, from the first appearance of the disease, of the whole staff of the Institution. The calm and unexcited attitude of their officers has had not a little to do with allaying the very natural fears of the pupils, who have, as well as their friends at home, been kept well informed of everything occurring, whether for the moment hopeful or discouraging, and whose conduct has throughout been most exemplary. I have also to recognize gratefully the confidence and sympathy expressed by parents and friends of pupils, whose letters at this time have been particularly kind and reassuring. Some fourteen pupils, only, returned home, all with my fullest consent, and five of the number I may say, for various reasons, at my own suggestion. All will now be at liberty to return. Dr. Corson has been in close attendance on the invalids, and we have conferred daily on the bulletins to be issued and precautions taken. The Matron, Miss Dunn, has had to bear a very large share, both of work and responsibility, and has been unwearied and indefatigable in her attention to the needs of all. Let me add one word more in conclusion. The arrest of this fearful disease before it had made further progress was due, undoubtedly, under Providence, to our ability to isolate effectually, and this depended on the possession of our male hospital ward. On the girls' side of the building, we are still without that requisite. The moral is plain.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant.

A. H. DYMOND,
Principal.

Brantford, Oct. 22nd, 1886.

ONTARIO INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1886.

I.—NATIONALITIES.

	No.		No.
American	4	Irish	38
Canadian	58	Norwegian	1
English	35	Scotch	18
French	5	Wendish	2
German	3	Total	164

II.—RELIGION.

	No.		No.
Baptists	7	Lutherans	3
Bible Christians	1	Methodists	42
Congregationalists	6	Presbyterians	29
Children of Peace	2	Roman Catholics	27
Episcopalians	43	Salvationists	2
Jew	1		
Christians	1	Total	164

V.—OCCUPATION OF PARENTS.

	No.		No.
Actor	1	Merchants	9
Agents	5	Machinist	1
Auctioneer	1	Miller	3
Accountant	1	Painters	1
Barber	1	Plumber	1
Bookkeepers	2	Physicians	2
Blacksmiths	3	Soldier	1
Butchers	2	Salesman	1
Carpenters	9	Stonemason	1
Carpet Cleaner	1	Shoemakers	3
Clerks	3	Surveyors	2
Conductor	1	Tailor	1
Clergyman	1	Tanner	1
Cabinet Makers	2	Tinsmith	1
Drover	1	Tradesman	1
Engineers	2	Vessel Agent	1
Farmers	54	Veterinary Surgeon	1
Gardener	1	Wagon-maker	1
Fishermen	2	Weaver	1
Hotel-keeper	1	Unknown	5
Labourers	30		
Lawyer	1		
Manufacturer	1	Total	164

TABLE VI.—Shewing Cities and Counties from which pupils were received during the official year ending 30th September, 1886.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.
City of Belleville	0	1	1	County of Middlesex	1	3	4
County of Brant	2	2	4	District of Muskoka	2	0	2
City of Brantford	3	1	4	County of Norfolk	0	1	1
County of Bruce	2	3	5	“ Northumberland	0	0	0
“ Carleton	1	0	1	“ Ontario	2	2	4
“ Dundas	1	1	2	City of Ottawa	4	0	4
“ Durham	0	0	0	County of Oxford	0	1	1
“ Elgin	0	3	3	“ Peel	1	0	1
“ Essex	2	5	7	“ Perth	1	2	3
“ Frontenac	2	1	3	“ Peterborough	1	0	1
“ Glengarry	1	0	1	“ Prince Edward	2	0	2
“ Grenville	0	0	0	“ Renfrew	5	3	8
“ Grey	0	4	4	“ Russell	1	0	1
City of Guelph	1	0	1	City of St. Catharines	0	0	0
County of Haldimand	1	2	6	“ St. Thomas	2	1	3
“ Halton	1	0	1	“ Stratford	1	1	2
City of Hamilton	4	3	7	County of Simcoe	1	3	4
County of Hastings	0	1	1	“ Stormont	2	0	2
“ Huron	3	2	5	City of Toronto	9	3	12
City of Kingston	2	2	4	County of Victoria	2	0	2
County of Kent	0	2	2	“ Waterloo	1	1	2
“ Lambton	4	3	7	“ Welland	1	0	1
“ Leeds	2	0	2	“ Wellington	4	1	5
“ Lanark	0	0	0	“ Wentworth	1	4	5
“ Lennox	2	1	3	“ York	8	4	12
“ Lincoln	1	2	3				
City of London	3	2	5	Total	93	71	164

TABLE VII.—Shewing Cities and Counties from which pupils were received from the opening of the Institution till 30th September, 1886.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.
City of Belleville	3	1	4	County of Middlesex ..	7	7	14
County of Brant	4	5	9	District of Muskoka	3	0	3
City of Brantford	6	5	11	County of Norfolk	5	6	11
County of Bruce	5	8	13	“ Northumberland	2	6	8
“ Carleton	2	1	3	“ Ontario	5	5	10
“ Dundas	2	2	4	City of Ottawa	7	1	8
“ Durham	1	3	4	County of Oxford	2	2	4
“ Elgin	2	3	5	“ Peel	1	1	2
“ Essex	4	9	13	“ Perth	4	8	12
“ Frontenac	5	2	7	“ Peterborough	8	2	10
“ Glengarry	3	0	3	“ Prince Edward	3	2	5
“ Grenville	2	0	2	“ Renfrew	7	4	11
“ Grey	5	8	13	“ Russell	1	1	2
City of Guelph	2	2	4	City of St. Catharines	2	0	2
County of Haldimand	4	4	8	“ St. Thomas	2	1	3
“ Halton	3	0	3	County of Simcoe	4	7	11
City of Hamilton	9	8	17	“ Stormont	4	0	4
County of Hastings	4	3	7	City of Toronto	16	13	29
“ Huron	6	6	12	County of Victoria	4	1	5
City of Kingston	3	3	6	“ Waterloo	5	3	8
County of Kent	6	4	10	“ Welland	3	2	5
“ Lambton	6	3	9	“ Wellington	8	5	13
“ Leeds	7	1	8	“ Wentworth	7	6	13
“ Lanark	0	1	1	“ York	13	8	21
“ Lennox	3	1	4	Province of Quebec	2	0	2
“ Lincoln	3	3	6				
City of London	7	8	15	Total	232	185	417

TABLE VIII.—Shewing Cities and Counties from which pupils were received who were in residence on 30th September, 1886.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.	COUNTY OR CITY.	Male.	Female.	Total.
City of Belleville	0	1	1	County of Middlesex	0	3	3
County of Brant	1	2	3	District of Muskoka	2	0	2
City of Brantford	1	0	1	County of Norfolk	0	1	1
County of Bruce	2	4	6	“ Northumberland	0	0	0
“ Carleton	1	0	1	“ Ontario	1	2	3
“ Dundas	0	1	1	City of Ottawa	2	0	2
“ Durham	0	0	0	County of Oxford	0	1	1
“ Elgin	0	2	2	“ Peel	1	0	1
“ Essex	2	5	7	“ Perth	2	1	3
“ Frontenac	1	0	1	“ Peterborough	1	0	1
“ Glengarry	1	0	1	“ Prince Edward	2	0	2
“ Grenville	0	0	0	“ Renfrew	4	3	7
“ Grey	0	2	2	“ Russell	0	0	0
City of Guelph	1	0	1	City of St. Catharines	0	0	0
County of Haldimand	3	1	4	“ St. Thomas	2	1	3
“ Halton	1	0	1	County of Simcoe	1	1	2
City of Hamilton	4	3	7	“ Stormont	2	0	2
County of Hastings	0	1	1	City of Toronto	7	1	8
“ Huron	2	3	5	County of Victoria	1	0	1
City of Kingston	0	1	1	“ Waterloo	1	1	2
County of Kent	4	3	7	“ Welland	1	0	1
“ Lambton	2	0	2	“ Wellington	4	1	5
“ Leeds	0	0	0	“ Wentworth	0	4	4
“ Lanark	2	1	3	“ York	8	4	12
“ Lennox	1	1	2				
“ Lincoln	3	1	4	Total	76	86	132
City of London	3						

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

R. CHRISTIE, Esq.,

Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities.

SIR,—In reply to your request, I herewith enclose the Medical Report of this Institution for the statutory year ending September 30th, 1886 :—

At the time of closing my report last year, one of the staff of teachers, Miss Loveys, was lying in a very critical state from inflammation of the liver, accompanied by jaundice, and other distressing symptoms. By a faithful perseverance in a particular line of treatment, the inflammation was subdued and an excellent recovery followed.

I am reminded by this case to refer to four or five cases of jaundice which occurred in succession during the winter, the severest one of the number being the portor, whose deep yellow color gave striking evidence of the morbid changes in the liver diets. The presence of such a large percentage of cases was probably a mere coincidence and not in any sense due to a local cause. Disorders and derangements of the alimentary track have, however, been the most marked feature in the list of diseases for the year, quite a number taking the form of severe intestinal colic. These attacks could never be traced to any specific cause beyond some indiscretion in the character or quantity of food taken.

As a proof of the continued excellent sanitary condition of the Institution, I am happy to report there are no deaths to record, and furthermore, that not a single case of epidemic disease has found its way into the Institution during the year.

Of course our chief protection against all zymotic diseases must depend upon the integrity of the Institution sewer, and it is fair to presume that all sewage matter is delivered quickly and efficiently at its proper destination. The safety experienced in the past should not, however, lull us into a sense of false security, and we therefore rely upon the vigilance of the engineer to see there are no breaks in the drain pipes and no defects in the traps, by which the deadly sewer gas might escape.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in bringing the pupils to understand the necessity for out-door exercise and fresh air in order to maintain a proper degree of health, and many seek to evade this duty, even where there are special reasons for its observance, and much firmness is necessary in order to enforce this regulation. To this end it would be a satisfactory arrangement if the whole school were turned out for a walk every fair day with the regularity observed in our Ladies' Colleges.

In the first month of our present term, two of our community have been prostrated by serious illness, the house carpenter having first suffered from a sharp attack of dysentery, and afterwards a male adult pupil was laid up with severe acute pleurisy. Both have, however, so far recovered that the carpenter has returned to his work, while the pupil is convalescent.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

BRANTFORD, Oct. 1st, 1886.

W. C. CORSON, M.D.

(Postscript to Physician's Report.)

P. S.—Since forwarding to you the above report, it becomes my duty to inform you that diphtheria has made its unexpected appearance in the Institution, first in the person of a male pupil, aged about 14 years, in whom it early assumed a malignant and fatal type. Five other cases of the same malady followed in quick succession, but less virulent in form. As this outbreak of an infectious disease occurred after the close of the official year, the full history of its origin, course and termination, belongs properly to the next annual report, to which I beg to defer it.

The Principal, however, has kindly shown me his supplementary report respecting this event, in which the main facts are faithfully exhibited, and the statements and conclusions therein contained meet with my unqualified approval.

BRANTFORD, Nov. 1st, 1886.

W. C. C.

